

**Environmental Restoration (ER) Project
Cerro Grande Fire
Accelerated Action Information Sheet**

**Potential Release Site (PRS) 18-001(a)
Lagoon**

Technical Area (TA)-18 is located off Pajarito Road near the confluence of Pajarito Canyon and Threemile Canyon. The principal activities at TA-18 are the design, construction, research, development, and application of experiments that involve chain reactions of atoms splitting fast enough to be self-sustaining (called nuclear criticality).

PRS History: PRS 18-001(a) includes the former sanitary lagoons located on the south side of Pajarito Road, approximately one mile east of TA-18. This system was placed into service in 1969; service was discontinued in 1992. PRS 18-001(a) was sampled in 1993 and dismantled in 1995. The dismantlement of the lagoons consisted of removing the above-grade portions and sidewalls, and filling the lagoon with clean fill. The sludge in the lagoon (at approximately six feet) was left in place.

PRS 18-001(a) is listed on the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments module of the Laboratory's Hazardous Waste Facility permit. ER Project personnel proposed the site for no further action, and there are no indications of residual risk at the site.



Issues of Concern: During the Cerro Grande fire, the area upstream of PRS 18-001(a) was burned at an intensity rated as low to high. There is a potential for erosion or scouring at the PRS because the back fill in the lagoon is probably not compacted or consolidated and could be eroded by a severe flood. The above-grade portions of the lagoon were removed so there is little debris that could enter the watercourse. There are no structures that could interfere with or be impacted by flood mitigation efforts.

Accelerated Action Status: During the preparation of the Cerro Grande Accelerated Action PRS Status Sheets, ER Personnel determined that PRS 18-001(a) was a potential candidate for additional characterization and that its erosion matrix score needed to be re-evaluated based on flood potential.

Related Documents: LA-UR-95-295